



TALBOT COUNTY AGRICULTURAL PROFILE

Talbot County lies in the heart of the Eastern Shore of Maryland. With 602 miles of waterfront, Talbot County is believed to have the longest shoreline of any county in the continental United States. The area of the county is 172,277 acres, of which 109,572 acres are classified as land in farms.

A total of 92,953 acres are cropland. Cash grain represents the primary type of farm production. Soybeans and corn with winter small grains are the main crops. Broiler production also contributes significantly to agricultural income.

The population of Talbot County was 30,549 in 1990. Easton, the County Seat, had a population of 9,372 and is the largest of the five incorporated towns in the county.

Seafood industry is second only to agriculture as the county's economic base. Recreational activities such as hunting, fishing and boating attract many visitors to the county each year, and a large number of retired persons have bought or built homes here.

TALBOT AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS

Crop	Year	Unit	Acreage Harvested	Average Yield	Total Production
Corn for Grain	1997	Bu.	33,900	81.0	2,745,000
	1998		35,800	92.0	3,294,700
	1999		33,200	101.5	3,370,000
Corn for Silage	1997	Tons.	*	*	*
	1998		*	*	*
	1999		*	*	*
Soybeans	1997	Bu.	49,000	29.4	1,440,200
	1998		43,100	25.0	1,078,000
	1999		37,200	35.5	1,319,100
Wheat	1997	Bu.	22,000	67.7	1,490,000
	1998		21,700	45.3	983,000
	1999		22,600	59.2	1,338,100
Hay	1997	Tons.	900	3.3	3,000
	1998		500	4.0	2,000
	1999		600	3.3	2,000
Barley	1997	Bu.	2,600	93.3	226,000
	1998		3,100	60.6	188,000
	1999		3,000	78.2	234,600

Crop Production Rank among MD. Counties, 1999				Livestock Inventories Rank among MD. Counties, 1997 ¹	
Corn	3	Oats	³	Cattle	17
Wheat	2	Barley	7	Hogs	²
Hay	22	Soybeans	5	Sheep	12
				Milk Production	12 ⁵

TALBOT AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS

Farm Numbers & Size ¹		1987	1992	1997
Number of Farms		280	250	240
Average Size (acres)		389	436	457
Land in Farms (acres)		109,032	109,108	109,572
Livestock (Number on Farms) ¹		1987	1992	1997
Cattle Inventory	Jan. 1	4,278	2,367	2,212
Hog Inventory	Dec. 1	2,765	1,834	²
Sheep Inventory	Jan. 1	487	521	514
Average Number of Milk Cows		1997	1998	1999
		900	900	900
Milk Production - 1,000 lbs.		1997	1998	1999
		11,600	12,000	12,000
Value of Sales ¹		1987	1992	1997
---- Thousand Dollars ----				
All Products		26,579	35,501	48,530
Crops		12,309	21,125	24,259
Livestock, Poultry and Poultry Products		14,270	14,376	24,271

¹ Source: Bureau of the Census U.S. Department of Commerce.
² Not published to avoid disclosure of individual operations.
³ Unranked - Data not published.
⁴ Revised.
⁵ 1999
* Acreage too small to publish.

MONTHLY WEATHER DATA - 1999

MONTH	AVERAGE TEMP. (F)	NORMAL 1961-1990	TOTAL RAINFALL (INCHES)	NORMAL 1961-1990
January	40.3	34.1	6.11	3.57
February	40.2	36.5	2.86	3.30
March	44.3	45.7	5.38	3.80
April	55.6	54.9	2.73	3.42
May	65.1	64.9	0.56	4.23
June	74.4	73.5	2.33	3.61
July	80.9	77.5	5.07	3.96
August	77.5	76.2	4.21	4.23
September	70.3	69.8	12.86	3.64
October	58.0	59.1	3.73	3.15
November	54.3	49.4	2.37	3.42
December	42.4	39.1	2.52	3.72
Annual	58.6	56.7	50.73	44.05

Number frost free days for 1999	226
Normal frost free days 1951-1980	212 <i>(1961-1990 Not available)</i>
Highest temperature 07-05-99	101
Lowest temperature 01-06-99	12

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